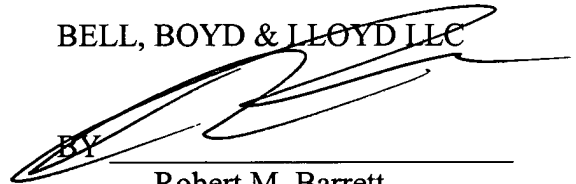


REMARKS

Pursuant to this Preliminary Amendment, Claims 1-7 have been amended and Claims 8-10 have been added. This Preliminary Amendment does not add new subject matter. The amendments to the claims are not for purposes of avoiding the prior art and are being merely made to place the claims in proper format. Applicants do not intend to disclaim any subject matter in view of the Preliminary Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

BELL, BOYD & LLOYD LLC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Barrett', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized with loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

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Dated: October 1, 2003